

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A security system comprising:

a plurality of battery operated security video cameras, each having an RF receiver and operating in a standby inactive video mode, providing a low electrical power consumption, or in an active video recording mode that consumes a greater amount of electrical power;

a plurality of security sensors for detecting a security/alarm event, each having an RF transmitter for transmitting an RF security/alarm event message indicating detection of a security/alarm event;

wherein an alarm event detected by a security sensor of the security system causes the security sensor to transmit an RF security/alarm event message which causes the security system video cameras to awaken from the standby inactive video mode into the active video recording mode.

2. The security system of claim 1, wherein each security video camera awakens from the standby inactive video mode into the active video recording mode for a predetermined period of time.

3. The security system of claim 1, wherein each security video camera is awakened from the standby inactive video mode into the active video recording mode by a security/alarm event message received from a security sensor.

4. The security system of claim 3, wherein each security video camera is always switched from the standby inactive video mode to the active video recording mode by an RF security/alarm event message from a security sensor.

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5. The security system of claim 3, wherein the security system includes a security system control panel which has an armed state in which the security system is armed and a disarmed state in which the security system is disarmed, and the security system control panel sends an RF enable message, enabling each security video camera to be awakened from the standby inactive video mode into the active video recording mode by a security/alarm event message received from a security sensor, if the security system control panel is in an armed state.

6. The security system of claim 3, wherein the security system includes a security system control panel which has an armed state in which the security system is armed and a disarmed state in which the security system is disarmed, and the security system control panel sends an RF disable message, disabling each security video camera from being awakened from the standby inactive video mode into the active video recording mode by a security/alarm event message received from a security sensor, if the security system control panel is in a disarmed state.

7. The security system of claim 1, wherein the security system includes a security system control panel which receives the RF security/alarm event message, and the security system control panel sends an RF awaken message to the security video cameras to cause the security system video cameras to awaken from the standby inactive video mode into the active video recording mode.

8. The security system of claim 7, wherein the security system control panel has an armed state in which the security system is armed and a disarmed state in which the security system is disarmed, and the security system control panel sends an RF awaken message to the security video cameras if the security system control panel is in an armed state and does not send the RF awaken message to the security video cameras if the security system control panel is in a disarmed state.

9. The security system of claim 1, wherein each security video camera includes a video storage buffer memory local to the security video camera.

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10. The security system of claim 1, wherein the security system includes a remote video storage memory remote to each security video camera, and upon activation each video security camera transmits video data to the remote video storage memory.

11. A method of operating a security system comprising:

operating a plurality of battery operated security video cameras, each having an RF receiver, in either a standby inactive video mode, providing a low electrical power consumption, or in an active video recording mode that consumes a greater amount of electrical power;

transmitting, by each of a plurality of security sensors for detecting a security/alarm event, an RF security/alarm event message upon detection of a security/alarm event;

upon transmission of an RF security/alarm event message, awakening the security system video cameras from the standby inactive video mode into the active video recording mode.

12. The method of claim 11, including awakening each security video camera from the standby inactive video mode into the active video recording mode for a predetermined period of time.

13. The method of claim 11, including awakening each security video camera from the standby inactive video mode into the active video recording mode upon each security video camera receiving a security/alarm event message from a security sensor.

14. The method of claim 13, including always switching each security video camera from the standby inactive video mode to the active video recording mode upon receiving an RF security/alarm event message from a security sensor.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein the security system includes a security system control panel which has an armed state in which the security system is armed and a disarmed state in which the security system is disarmed, and the security system control panel sending an RF enable message, enabling each security video camera to be awakened from the standby inactive

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video mode into the active video recording mode by a security/alarm event message received from a security sensor, if the security system control panel is in an armed state.

16. The method of claim 13, wherein the security system includes a security system control panel which has an armed state in which the security system is armed and a disarmed state in which the security system is disarmed, and the security system control panel sending an RF disable message, disabling each security video camera from being awakened from the standby inactive video mode into the active video recording mode by a security/alarm event message received from a security sensor, if the security system control panel is in a disarmed state.

17. The method of claim 11, wherein the security system includes a security system control panel which upon receiving the RF security/alarm event message, sends an RF awaken message to the security video cameras to cause the security system video cameras to awaken from the standby inactive video mode into the active video recording mode.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the security system control panel has an armed state in which the security system is armed and a disarmed state in which the security system is disarmed, and the security system control panel sending an RF awaken message to the security video cameras if the security system control panel is in an armed state and not sending the RF awaken message to the security video cameras if the security system control panel is in a disarmed state.

19. The method of claim 11, each security video camera storing video data in a video storage buffer memory local to the security video camera.

20. The method of claim 11, each security video camera, upon activation, transmitting video data to a remote video storage memory remote to the security video camera.